

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AFSP, ESTC, COCOM
SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF OECD PIT POSITION: NO. 007
(PRINGOS, THEODORA)

REF: (A) STATE 200669, (B) PARIS 20692, (C) PARIS
21073

1. SUMMARY: ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVE EXTENSION OF OECD/STC PIT POSITION FOR FULL SIX MONTHS PERIOD BEYOND SEPTEMBER 30, AS PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED.
2. USOECD/EMBASSY STRONGLY URGE DEPARTMENT TO RE-CONSIDER ITS DECISION TO TERMINATE THE AUTHORIZATION FOR PIT POSITION IN OECD/STC AS OF JANUARY 31, 1978, AS OUTLINED REF A. RESULTING REDUCTION OF CLERICAL STAFF IN STC DOWN TO TWO POSITIONS (ONE SECRETARY AND ONE C&R ASSISTANT) WOULD SERIOUSLY HAMPER ITS OPERATIONS. BECAUSE STC IS LOCATED A CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE FROM BOTH MAIN CHANCERY BUILDING AND USOECD, NEITHER EMBASSY NOR MISSION CAN PROVIDE CLERICAL SUPPORT TO STC ON CONTINUOUS BASIS. IN FACT, DURING PAST YEAR, BECAUSE OF ITS OWN INCREASING ACTIVITIES, USOECD HAS FOUND IT MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT TO LOAN CLERICAL PERSONNEL TO STC EVEN ON A TEMPORARY BASIS.

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3. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, STC LOST ITS THIRD PERMANENT CLERICAL POSITION IN 1968. SINCE 1972, WHEN THE NUMBER OF COCOM EXCEPTION CASES SOARED TO FOUR TIMES THE 1968 LEVEL, MISSION HAS UNSUCCESSFULLY REQUESTED THE DEPARTMENT ON REPEATED OCCASIONS FOR REESTABLISHMENT OF THIRD STC PERMANENT CLERICAL POSITION. STC HAS BEEN ABLE TO COPE WITH THE CONTINUING LARGE

NUMBER OF EXCEPTION CASES ONLY BY ASSIGNMENT OF PIT PERSONNEL. (DURING PERIODS OF LIST REVIEWS, TWO OR MORE PI/ CLERICAL PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN REQUIRED.)

4. ABOUT 50 PERCENT OF ALL EXCEPTION REQUESTS IN COCOM ARE OF US ORIGIN IN 1976, 428 OUT OF TOTAL OF 926. SERIOUS DELAYS IN THE SUBMISSION OF THESE US EXCEPTION REQUESTS WHICH COULD WELL RESULT FROM REDUCTION OF STC STAFF WOULD PROVE TO BE COSTLY TO SOME US FIRMS AND ADVERSELY AFFECT MISSION'S RESPONSIBILITIES WHICH ARE PART OF USG STATUTORY ADMINISTRATION OF EXPORT CONTROL.

5. DURING PAST FEW MONTHS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS (MOST RECENTLY IN AMBASSADOR SALZMAN'S TELEGRAM TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY KATZ, REF B) MISSION HAS CALLED DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION TO THE INCREASING DISCONTENT OF THE OTHER COCOM MEMBERS TO USG PERFORMANCE IN THAT BODY, IN PART BECAUSE OF THE LONG DELAYS IN THE PROCESSING OF THEIR EXCEPTION CASES. WHILE ADMITTEDLY MOST OF THE DELAY RESULTS DURING THE PROCESSING OF THESE CASES IN WASHINGTON AGENCIES, REDUCTION OF STC STAFF, WHICH MUST PROVIDE SPECIAL HANDLING OF ALL EXCEPTION CASE DOCUMENTS, COULD ONLY AGGRAVATE PROBLEM.

6. IN ADDITION TO THESE FACTORS, ELIMINATION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TEMPORARY POSITION IN STC AS OF JANUARY 30 COULD NOT COME AT A MORE INAUSPICIOUS TIME. A COCOM LIST REVIEW IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN 1978. STC'S WORKLOAD WILL BE SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED DURING THE ACTUAL LIST REVIEW SESSIONS AS WELL AS DURING THE LENGTHY PREPARATORY PERIOD PRECEDING THEM.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST DEPARTMENT APPROVE EXTENSION OF OECD PIT POSITION FOR FULL ADDITIONAL PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS BEYOND SEPTEMBER 30, 1977 REQUESTED REF C AND BE PREPARED TO GIVE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION TO FURTHER EXTENSIONS BEYOND THE PERIOD, AS LONG AS REQUIREMENT EXISTS AND IF ASSIGNMENT OF PERMANENT POSITION TO STC CONTINUES UNFEASIBLE. SALZMAN

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